U.S. Department of Justice



United States Attorney Northern District of New York

100 South Clinton Street

Room 900; P.O. Box 7198

Syracuse, New York 13261-7198

(315) 448-0672

May 25, 2004

Re: <u>United States v. Alexander Salvagno, Raul Salvagno, and AAR</u>

<u>Contractor, Inc.</u>; Criminal U.S. District Court Number 02-CR-51

Dear Sir or Madame:

On March 30, 2004, Alexander Salvagno, Raul Salvagno, and AAR Contractor, Inc. ("AAR"), were convicted of numerous felonies relating to illegal asbestos abatement. The charges also reflected Alex Salvagno's secret and illegal ownership of Analytical Laboratories of Albany ("ALA"). ALA was used in many instances to falsify laboratory sample results in order to hide incomplete or improper asbestos removal. In any event, it is illegal for an asbestos abatement contractor to utilize the services of a laboratory which he either owns or controls.

Computer records seized from the defendants indicate that AAR Contractor, Inc. performed abatement work for you/your company and that Analytical Laboratories of Albany illegally conducted related air monitoring and/or laboratory analysis. Thus, it would appear that you/your company was the victim of criminal activity by these defendants.

The United States does not have sufficient information to determine whether AAR failed to remove all of the asbestos at your facility/home, but this may have occurred. As a result of our investigation and prosecution, we know that AAR failed to remove all asbestos from many facilities where it was hired to perform abatement. We urge you to retain a reputable licensed environmental consulting firm to reexamine your facility for asbestos immediately. We strongly recommend that any such re-testing involve a visual inspection by trained professionals in and around the exact areas where asbestos removal purportedly occurred. Air sampling, without a thorough visual inspection, especially around pipes or boilers where asbestos insulation may have been removed, is often insufficient to detect

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remaining asbestos. If asbestos is found, it should be removed by a licensed asbestos abatement company.

In the event that AAR performed work, but did not properly or completely abate the asbestos, you are likely entitled to restitution. If residual asbestos is found, <u>please</u> immediately report such instances to the EPA at 315-423-3719 <u>whether or not</u> you are interested in restitution.

If you have questions about your obligations as a building owner to abate and remove asbestos, or if you need a list of environmental consulting firms and contractors licensed to provide asbestos-related services, please contact the New York State Department of Labor at 518-457-9000. For answers to general questions about asbestos abatement or about the potential health risks associated with exposure to asbestos, you can access the New York State Department of Health Website at:

http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/asbestos/guide.htm or call them at 1-800-458-1158.

The U.S. Attorney's Office is concerned that victims and witnesses of Federal crime are treated fairly throughout their contact with the criminal justice system. This includes the right to be informed of the status and disposition of the case. A Victim/Witness Handbook, which outlines the Department of Justice's available assistance services, can be found online at:

http://www.usaondny.org/LeccVW/VictimWitness/VictimWitness.shtml. You can also go to http://www.usaondny.org and click on the link for "LECC & Victim Witness" and then "Victim Witness Program". Other useful information relevant to victims of Federal crimes may be found at this website, including dates of sentencing when set by the Court.

If you do not have access to the above-mentioned Websites, please call our Victim Witness Office at 518-431-0247, or if you live outside the Albany area, toll-free at 1-888-539-4535, and request to speak to Melissa. She will take down your mailing information, and arrange to send you a copy of the Victim/Witness Handbook.

Sincerely,

GLENN T. SUDDABY United States Attorney

By:

Vanessa Gambelunghe Victim/Witness Data Manager